

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian C. Meadows on 5/17/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 10, line 6, after "hair" **insert----** wherein after step b), the relaxed and neutralized hair exhibits at least 20 % fewer broken hair fibers as compared to relaxed hair that has been neutralized with a shampoo neutralizer product----; line 8, after "neutralized", **insert----** wherein the neutralizer mousse composition comprises: a) a mousse concentrate comprising water, an acid and a surfactant; and b) one or more propellants ----.

Claims 20-25, line 1, **delete** "claim 19" and **insert----** claim 10----.

Cancel claims 1-9, 12-13, 19 and 26.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The combination of WO 93/00882 ('882) and 6,231,844('844) and 4,871,530('530) do not fairly suggest the claimed method of neutralizing relaxed hair comprising steps a-c and neutralizing the relaxed hair with neutralizer mousse composition wherein the neutralizer mousse composition comprises: a) a mousse concentrate comprising water, an acid and a surfactant; and b) one or more propellants.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JYOTHSNA A. VENKAT whose telephone number is 571-272-0607. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30-7:30:1st Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, EYLER YVONNE (BONNIE) can be reached on 571-272-0871. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JYOTHSNA A VENKAT /
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1619